

CLASSIFICATION

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY

Czechoslovakia

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SUBJECT

Construction of Defense Installations in Prague

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NO. OF ENCLS. (LISTED BELOW)

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SUPPLEMENT TO REPORT NO.

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THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

1. A number of construction projects have been undertaken in Prague which source believes may be part of a large-scale operation to improve the city's defenses in case of war.
2. Source cites the following projects:
 - a. The construction of a 2½ to 3 meters high observation tower with narrow horizontal slits on all four sides on the flat roof of an apartment building at 1480/19 Jankovcova, Prague VII. This work was completed in August 1953.
 - b. The construction of a large tunnel in Prague-Letna opposite Strakova Academy, which houses the offices of the Ministerial Council. Work on this project was begun in the fall of 1952 under the official designation "Metro-Klarov" (Subway Klarov) but it was commonly believed that the tunnel was designed to be an air raid shelter or eventual subterranean offices for the Ministerial Council.
 - c. Source observed underground work in the vicinity of the Prague-Zizkov freight station. He assumes and has heard rumors elsewhere that a subterranean central administration for the Ministry of Postal Affairs will be accommodated here.
 - d. A short distance from the freight station mentioned above, on Vitkov hill, another tunnel is under construction.
 - e. Another tunnel, reportedly a subterranean barracks or other military object (since the construction work is being done exclusively by soldiers), is under construction in Podbaba, near the terminal of streetcar line #18.

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